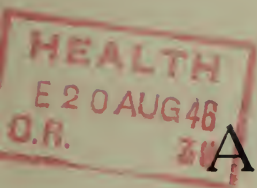


BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1945.

R. C. F. SMITH, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., F.R.I.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital.

G. HART, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector (at present in H.M. Forces).

G. B. BROWN, M.S.I.A.

Temporary Sanitary Inspector.

Boldon Urban District Council,

1945.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR JOHN TRACEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR ROBERT PARRY.

COUN. J. CORNTHWAITE.	COUN. E. NEWTON.
„ C. S. GREGSON.	„ MRS. M. STEWART.
„ J. JOHNSON.	„ F. H. THUBRON.
„ C. KIRTON.	„ J. WHITE.
„ R. McDARMONT.	„ W. T. WILSON.

Chairman of the Health Committee :

COUNCILLOR J. CORNTHWAITE, J.P.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
EAST BOLDON.

Officials.

Medical Officer of Health : R. C. F. SMITH, M.D., B.S.,
D.P.H., F.R.I.P.H.

Deputy „ „ „ ANDREW FORBES, M.B.,
C.H.B.

Sanitary Inspector : GERRARD HART, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Temporary Sanitary Inspector : GEO. B. BROWN, M.S.I.A.

Clerk to the Health Department : MISS H. MILLAR.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

Medical Superintendent : THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH.

Mairon : MISS A. VEALE.

BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Baldon Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I hereby present my report for the year 1945, which with the exception of the absence of any Civil Defence Service is somewhat similar to the previous reports during the latter years.

At the request of the Ministry of Health, a detailed analysis and some observations of the water supply, whether piped or otherwise, is hereby included. In regard to INFECTIOUS DISEASES, with the exception of Tuberculosis the Health of the district in the main continues to be satisfactory, but, unfortunately owing to the ever present strain and competition with regard to the purchase of necessary foods for consumption there is a tendency for minor diseases and disabilities to become more pronounced. This is seen in the increased number of patients attending Hospital for skin disorders, various eye diseases and for the population at large to become more intolerant towards restrictions with resultant mental irritability due to the frustration of their normal desires.

In comparison with the passed year, there was an increase of 13 deaths ; more than 60 however, being over the age of 70 years. In view of what we have gone

through this figure gives no cause for complaint. With reference to Infectious Diseases there was a decrease over the last year ; and, as I mentioned in my previous report, with the removal of the black-out and therefore better ventilation of houses, we can expect further improvements in the incidence of disease caused by droplet spray as seen in most of the Fever, Nasal and Chest complaints. During the year there was no outbreak of Influenza although head and chest colds were very prevalent at the beginning of the year, in this respect we must consider ourselves very fortunate.

The incidence of DIPHTHERIA was only six, this fortunate position we may rightly assume to be due to the high percentage of immunised children in the area. SCARLET FEVER still continues to be a very mild disease.

The Health Department had four cases for the treatment of SCABIES, these were adequately treated at the Fever Hospital. 6 Smallpox contacts were notified during 1945, in each case the families were visited and advised re vaccination. No cases of Smallpox developed from any of the contacts notified in this area. Regarding TUBERCULOSIS, I am pleased to report that the notifications of this disease are again below that of the last few years ; this, in spite of the fact that a great majority of other areas show a decided increase, especially in young people of the teen age. We may congratulate ourselves here that this happy state is due to our excellent housing conditions. The incidence of this disease is seen especially at Boldon Colliery, where the housing conditions fall below that of the standard of the outlying districts.

The chief causes of death, cancer, heart disease and intercranial vascular disorders were much the same as in previous years.

R. C. F. SMITH,
Medical Officier of Health.

BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT, 1945.

Statistics from the Registrar General.

RESIDENT POPULATION.

14,920.

NUMBER OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

Measles	56
Smallpox .....	....
Scarlet Fever	5
Diphtheria	5
Enteric Fever .....	....
Pneumonia	1
Puerperal Fever .....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	....
Erysipelas .....	....
Whooping Cough	11

Births and Deaths.

LIVE BIRTHS.	M.	F.
Total	126	119
Legitimate	120	113
Illegitimate	6	6

The Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated population is 16.4.

STILL BIRTHS.	M.	F.
Total	5	4
Legitimate	4	4
Illegitimate	1	..

During 1945 there were 9 Still Births in the District.

The Still Birth Rate of the estimated population is .6.

Infantile Mortality.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.	M.	F.
Total	6	4
Legitimate	6	3
Illegitimate .....	..	1

Death Rate for all infants per 1,000 Live Births 40.8.

The following table shews the infantile mortality rate for all infants per 1,000 Live Births in 1945 as compared with the preceding 4 years.

Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births.

	<i>Year.</i>	<i>Rate.</i>
BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT	1941	71.4
	1942	59.9
	1943	47.1
	1944	53.7
	1945	40.8

The following Table shews the variation in the Birth and Death Rates and the increase in population during the preceding four years, as compared with 1945.

	Year.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.
BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT			Crude Death Rate.
	1941	14.5	15.76
	1942	15.3	12.8
	1943	19.2	13.5
	1944	19.04	12.8
	1945	16.4	13.4

Comparability Factor.

The variety and magnitude of local population movements and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths have together combined to frustrate the attempt to secure comparability between local death rates by the use of Areal Comparability Factors and the preparation and issue of such factors are being suspended under present conditions. Hence the Death Rate of 13.4 is merely the Crude Death Rate and cannot be corrected, at present, for the district.

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

No deaths were notified as being due to puerperal sepsis.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT DURING 1945.

The causes of all the deaths in the district during 1945 of males and females are shown in the following table :—

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever
2. Measles
3. Scarlet Fever
4. Whooping Cough
5. Diphtheria	2	2
6. Influenza
Carried forward	2	2

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Brought forward . . . .	..	2	2
7. Encephalitis Lethargica . . . .	..	..	..
8. Cerebro-spinal fever . . . . .	..	..	..
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	4	2	6
10. Other Tuberculosis diseases..	2	1	3
11. Syphilis	3	2	5
12. G.P.I., tabies, etc. . . . .	..	..	..
13. Cancer, malignant disease ..	9	20	29
14. Diabetes . . . . .	..	1	1
15. Cerebral haemorrhage, etc. ..	..	..	..
16. Heart disease	33	20	53
17. Aneurysm . . . . .	..	..	..
18. Other circulatory diseases ..	4	2	6
19. Bronchitis	3	3	6
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1	4
21. Other respiratory diseases ..	5	3	8
22. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	4	..	4
23. Diarrhoea under 2 years . . . .	..	..	..
24. Appendicitis	1	2	3
25. Cirrhosis of liver . . . . .	..	..	..
26. Other diseases of liver, etc. ..	..	..	..
27. Other digestive diseases . . . .	..	2	2
28. Nephritis	1	2	3
29. Puerperal Sepsis . . . . .	..	..	..
30. Other puerperal causes . . . .	..	..	..
31. Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. . . .	4	2	6
32. Senility . . . . .	..	..	..
33. Suicide	1	..	1
34. Other violent causes	4	1	5
35. Intra cran : vace : lesions . . .	11	13	24
36. Road traffic accidents	1	..	1
37. All other causes	11	18	29
	104	97	201

A comparison of this table with previous tables shows a decrease of Deaths under Cancer and Pneumonia. Heart Disease, Tuberculosis and Other Violent causes show a slight increase.

The remaining categories of Death are approximately as in previous years.

TABLE III.
BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1945.

(Provisional figures based on weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales.	126 County Boro's. and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Admin'istrative County.
*Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:—				
BIRTHS—				
Live	16.1†	19.1	19.2	15.7
Still	0.46†	0.58	0.53	0.40
DEATHS—				
All Causes	11.4†	13.5	12.3	13.8
Typhoid and Para- Typhoid fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births:—				
Deaths under 1 year of age	46†	54	43	53
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6
*A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths. † Per 1,000 related Births. ‡ Rates per 1,000 Total Population.				
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—				
NOTIFICATIONS :—				
Typhoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid fever ..	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Scarlet fever	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57
Whooping cough	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25
Diphtheria	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):—				
(a) NOTIFICATIONS :—				
Puerperal Fever....	9.93	12.65	8.81	3.60
Puerperal Pyrexia }				‡15.87

(b) MATERNAL MORTALITY—England and Wales.

No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion Without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142—6 148—150 Other
0.25	0.08	0.24	1.22

ABORTION : Mortality per million women aged 15-45—England and Wales.

No. 140 with Sepsis.	No. 141 without Sepsis.
18	6

‡Including Puerperal Fever.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological Examination of sputa and throat swabs from general practitioners are undertaken by the University of Durham at King's College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, by arrangement with the County Council.

Bacteriological Examinations for the Year 1945 :—

<i>For Tubercle Baccilli.</i>		<i>For Diphtheria.</i>	
Positive	11	Positive	2
Negative	23	Negative	6
	—		—
	34		8
	==		==

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—There is no change from the preceding year—these are adequate.

NURSING, ETC.—As regard facilities for Nursing in the home, and the provision of treatment centres and clinics, there is no change from the preceding year.

HOSPITALS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.—No change.

BOLDON ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—During 1945, 32 cases of Infectious disease were admitted to the wards. 9 of which were outside cases.

A summary of the cases admitted into Hospital is shewn thus :—

	<i>In the Area.</i>	<i>Out of the Area.</i>	<i>No. of days in Hospital.</i>
Scarlet Fever	15	2	420
Diphtheria	6	4	296
Tonsillitis	2	1	18
Tonsilectomy			
Measles			
Typhoid			
Erysipelas			
Septic Mumps			
Teething Rash			
Food Rash			
Ulcerated Bowel			
Pneumonia			
Chicken Pox			
Urticaria			
Pneumococcal		1	32
Dysentery		1	16
	23	9	782

The number of Swabs taken during the past year were 39, including outside cases.

K.L.B.	31
Haemolytic Streptococci	7
Vincent's Angina	1

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Up to the moment there have been but few cases of infectious diseases in this community. SCARLET FEVER began to decline years ago, and has continued to do so.

DIPHTHERIA also showed a satisfactory decline in this District. The incidence of Whooping Cough and Tuberculosis was below the average. Measles showed an increase in common with the rest of the County.

During the year there were 6 cases of DIPHTHERIA in this district.

DISINFECTION.

Disinfection of premises has been carried out by your Staff on the removal of all cases of diphtheria, scarlet fever, and on the termination of the period of isolation if the patient has been nursed at home. The clothing and bedding of the patient is disinfected in the steam disinfector at the hospital. Disinfections are also carried out at houses where the death or removal of a person suffering from tuberculosis has occurred.

The number of the chief infectious diseases during the quinquennium preceding 1945, is shewn thus :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.		Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Chicken Pox
BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT													
Year.	Population.												
1940	14,900	4	3	18	2	10	11	..	6	1	160	8	.....
1941	14,460	4	7	4	1	10	15	..	..	3	218	65	.....
1942	14,350	13	3	10	..	13	18	..	4	3	18	2	.....
1943	14,360	12	17	20	..	13	17	..	17	2	74	11	.....
1944	14,650	10	1	19	..	13	11	..	8	1	35	10	1
1945	14,920	6	..	15	..	7	9	..	1	..	56	11	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the past year, 7 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 9 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

6 deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 3 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

TABLE VI.
NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1945.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0-1 .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
0-5 .....	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..
5-15 .....	..	..	3	3	..	..	1	1
15-25	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
25-35	1	.....	.....	..	1	2	..	..
35-45	1	.....	..	..	1	..	..	..
45-55 .....	..	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
55-65 .....	..	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards .....	..	..	..	.....	2	..	.....	..
Totals	5	2	5	4	4	2	2	1

WATER SUPPLIES.

As before, the district is supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company. Bacteriological Examinations are carried out by the owners. This examination is necessary in case any water-borne disease is brought into the district by troops or evacuees.

A typical Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological Examination of the water supply is given below :—

<i>Chemical Analysis.</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total Solids	51.8
Chlorine as Chloride	4.60
Sodium Chloride (grains per gall.	5.31
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.30
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil.
Alkalinity	28.80
Total hardness (degrees).....	29.9
Iron	Nil.
Free Chlorine (parts per million)	0.15

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Organisms visible on agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C. 2 per cc

Bacillus Coli in quantities of—

1cc	10cc s	100cc s
Absent.	Absent.	Absent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No important extension of the Council's sewerage system has been made during the year.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No case of serious pollution has arisen during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Little alteration has been made to the Sanitary conveniences in the district during the year, as will be seen from the following table :—

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING TYPES OF CLOSET
ACCOMMODATION.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Ash Closets	77	76	76	76	75
Water Closets . .	4,892	4,899	4,856	4,857	4,865
Chemical Closets	7	7	7	7	7

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The district continues to be scavenged in a satisfactory manner, complaints of neglect being practically nil.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA—

Inspections and Visits.

	1945.
Number of complaints investigated	108
Number of inspections other than dwelling-houses	115
Number of inspections and Visits to Dwelling-houses under the Public Health Acts	316
Number of informal Notices served	161
Number of Nuisances abated	144
Number of Statutory Notices served	4

FACORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number inspected	8
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INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number investigated	27
Number of Houses disinfected	27
Lots of infectious bedding disinfected or destroyed	23

DRAINS TESTED	48
-------------------------	----

SHOPS.—Visited and inspected during the year..	69
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CAMPING SITES.

No Camp Sites have been licensed during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Only one complaint was received during the year regarding a nuisance from smoke, which issued from the gable end of a dwelling house.

Spraying with water continues to have a good effect in controlling one fiery pit heap nuisance in the district.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the area.

VERMINOUS HOUSES.

Number of houses found to be infested.....	7
Number disinfested	7

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition and water supply of the schools in the district is satisfactory, and it has not been necessary to take any action during the past year in respect of infectious disease amongst school children.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**MILK SUPPLY.**

Visits and Inspections to dairies and byres during the year were :—25 dairies and 21 byres. Total 46. Six samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year of which 4 were of Accredited Standard. Of the other two, one failed the Methylene Blue and the other the Coli tests.

The following Dealers' licences to use the special designations stated, were renewed for 12 months under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938. :—

Retailing Licences 'Pasteurised'	3
Bottling Licence 'Tuberculin Tested'	1
Retailing Licence 'Tuberculin Tested'	1
Retailing Licence 'Accredited'	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

5 Licenses for Slaughter-houses have been renewed.

No slaughtering takes place in this district at present however, except the slaughtering of animals for Home Consumption under licences from the Food Control Committee. The number of animals slaughtered under these licences during 1945 was, 90 pigs.

Inspections take place at the Butcher's Shops and the allocation Depot in this area and at other premises where food is prepared.

55 seizures (by surrender) of unsound foods, mostly tinned, were made during the year.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

The County Council take samples under the Food and Drugs Acts in this District.